



Fact Sheet:

National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of California (NCADD)



The NCADD was founded in 1944 by Mrs. Marty Mann, the first woman to stay sober in Alcoholics Anonymous. Her objective was to create a nationwide community-based organization to teach the American public that alcoholism was a treatable and preventable disease and to reduce the stigma associated with the disease. In the process, NCADD created the field of alcoholism and other drug addictions as it exists today.

NCADD established the first library on alcoholism, produced the first publications on alcoholism for national distribution, held the first national general interest conference on alcoholism, offered the first prevention and education classes, and started the first Employee Assistance Program. NCADD, through its Affiliates and friends in Congress, was responsible for passage of the Hughes Act in 1970 which established the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and consequently, the entire federal structure for research, prevention, and education in the field of alcoholism and other drug addictions.

NCADD founded the Research Society on Alcoholism, the Employee Assistance Professional Association, and the National Nurses Society on Addictions -- all now separate organizations that play a vital role in the field. The American

Society of Addiction Medicine was also once part of NCADD. In the almost fifty years since its founding, NCADD has created or nurtured these and other organizations which have grown and flourished to provide the diversity of thought and action which characterizes the field today.

In 1944, 85% of the American public thought alcoholism was not a disease. In 1987, more than 85% of Americans recognize it as a disease thanks to the untiring efforts of NCADD and the many organizations it has created, nurtured, and supported.

Through its national office and almost 200 Affiliates throughout America, NCADD offers medical and scientific information, prevention, and education programs, public awareness campaigns, public advocacy at the state and national levels, counseling and referral programs and 800 help lines. Hundreds of thousands of hours of volunteered time help literally millions of Americans.

Without NCADD and its distinguished history, the world as we know it would be a very different place.

For further information on NCADD, its Affiliates, national office, or legislative office, please contact the California State Office of NCADD at (916) 442-1756. □